



STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Excise Officers Arrest 23 on 27 Charges in Bloomington**

**BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (Sept. 23)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested 23 people on 27 charges while patrolling around Indiana University–Bloomington Saturday night.

Excise police officers arrested 18 minors for illegal possession of consumption of alcohol, two people for furnishing alcohol to a minor, one minor for operating while intoxicated, two minors for possession of false ID, two people for public intoxication, one person for trespass and one person for theft.

While officers were writing tickets on a traffic stop at 17<sup>th</sup> Street and Jordan Avenue, a Carmel man walked into the side of an excise officer's police vehicle. All of the police car's red and blue emergency lights were on. The man, who at one point told officers he was an attorney, was unable to say the alphabet or count. He tested .14%BAC and also exhibited numerous signs of being intoxicated from a controlled substance. Because of his severe level of intoxication and consistently incoherent statements, excise officers were concerned that he may walk into another car. He was taken to IU Health Bloomington Hospital's emergency department. After being checked by medical personnel, he was then taken to the Monroe County Jail, where he was preliminarily charged with public intoxication.

Another excise officer arrested the same Bloomington man for a fourth time Saturday. The officer saw the man buying a can of beer inside a store where he had arrested the same man three previous times on various charges, including theft (twice), trespass (twice) and public intoxication. The officer arrested him for trespass again yesterday.

Indiana State Excise Police officers, who are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission, were working in Bloomington this weekend as part of the Intensified College Enforcement, or ICE, program launched last semester. The ICE initiative aims to reduce underage access to and use of alcohol at six college campuses: Ball State, Butler, Indiana, Indiana State, Notre Dame and Purdue.

While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.

*All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.*